

that deals with a lot of subjects, a lot of areas, could ever have the expertise to suppose, to understand the various functions and the various things that the University Board of Regents have to deal with. So I'm sure that, even whether they are appointed or however they get there, this body would never be able to direct them with the expertise that some of us might think we could. I oppose LR 225.

PRESIDENT: Senator Newell, did you wish to speak a second time?

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I think that Senator Vickers' comments were most interesting. I think there are a couple of things that we have to keep in perspective about just how the legislative process works. You see the difference between the Legislature and the University is simply this, surely both bodies are subject to political pressure. Senator Vickers, you will never appreciate every decision that is made by this body, nor will I, nor will Senator Sieck, nor will any member of this body agree with everything that is done here. But the one thing that makes us more responsible to the electorate than the University is that we also have to balance our expenditures with our taxes. We have to look at all the priorities of the state. Let me tell you that I would love to give the University a blank check to do wonderful things. I won't because you know that we need to keep a perspective on what is wonderful and what is too much in terms of what the taxpayers will take and stand for. We need to balance and prioritize the long laundry list of requests that come to us and, yes, Senator Vickers, sometimes we'll not be happy. Sometimes we'll think we made the wrong decision. Sometimes you won't like the way the vet school bill turns out. But, Senator Vickers, our responsibility is so much broader than the University's. The University Board of Regents is elected. In my opinion, as I indicated earlier, they can continue to be elected. The problem with that is simply this, they are elected lobbyists, which gives them greater authority to ask and request more money. If the election process is such a good one then let's do it for the State College Board and give them a little more authority to ask for more money. The